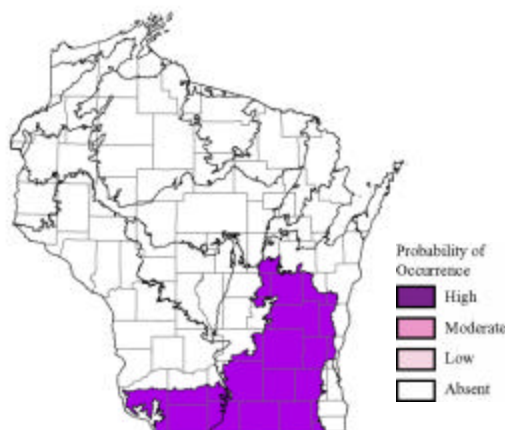


Slender Madtom (*Noturus exilis*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	4
State threats:	5
State population trend:	5
Global abundance:	2
Global distribution:	4
Global threats:	3
Global population trend:	3
Mean Risk Score:	3.7
Area of importance:	2

* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.



Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Southeast Glacial Plains	Warmwater streams
Southwest Savanna	Warmwater streams

Threats and Issues

- Agriculture and urbanization of stream riparian areas and watersheds degrades habitat for this species, which prefers clear waters with moderate to swift currents over substrates of gravel and boulders that are free of silt.
- Loss of stream habitat to dams and improper operation of dams causing channel dewatering threaten this species.
- Non-point source pollution, including siltation and turbidity and fish kills from agricultural runoff in the Rock River basin, threaten this species.

Priority Conservation Actions

- Protection of refuge areas is needed for the few localities in the Rock River system where this species still occurs.
- Protection and restoration of natural stream areas in the Rock River basin are needed for conservation of this species in the few areas where it is still found. Reductions in non-point source pollution are needed to provide silt free spawning habitats for this species.
- More information on population trends, causes of decline, and factors limiting the abundance and distribution of slender madtoms is needed.